

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/092,202

Examiner

Michael P. Mooney

Applicant(s)

CHANG, CHIH CHIANG

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**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☒ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
  - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                             | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)          |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                    | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.            |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____.              | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                             |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
|  | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art, either alone or in combination, does not disclose or render obvious a variable optical attenuator including 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> collimator retaining input fibers and an attenuating means having two anamorphic prisms for respectively expanding and shrinking parallel light beam and an optical baffle positioned between the two anamorphic prisms; wherein, the parallel light beam from the first collimator passes through one anamorphic prism, then expands to form an expanding light beam, the optical baffle is moveable to block part of the expanding light beam, and another part of the expanding light beam is shrunk by the other anamorphic prism, then is received by the second collimator and outputs from the output fiber in combination with the rest of claim 1.

The prior art, either alone or in combination, does not disclose or render obvious a variable optical attenuator including a first collimator; a second collimator; a first anamorphic prism, a second anamorphic prism, a third anamorphic prism and a forth anamorphic prism orderly positioning in parallel light beam from first collimator; and an optical baffle for blocking part of the light beam; where in parallel light beams coming from the first collimator pass through the first and the second anamorphic prisms, then expand to form an expanded light beams, the optical baffle is moveable to block a part of the expanded light beams, the remaining part of the expanded light beams are shrunk by the third and forth anamorphic prisms, then are received by the second collimator in combination with the rest of claim 5.

The prior art, either alone or in combination, does not disclose or render obvious a variable optical attenuator including 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> collimator retaining input fibers and an attenuating means having an expanding device for expanding parallel light beam from the first collimator and an optical baffle for blocking part of the light beam; wherein, parallel light beam from the first collimator passes through the expanding device, then expands to form an expanding light beam, the optical baffle is adjustably moveable to block part of the expanded light beam, and thus another part of the expanded light beam is adapted to be received by the second collimator and outputs from the output fiber in combination with the rest of claim 10.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael P. Mooney whose telephone number is 703-308-6125. The examiner can normally be reached during weekdays, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on 703-308-4881. The fax phone numbers

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for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7722 for regular communications and 703-308-7721 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956. An alternative useful number for status inquiries is 703-306-3329.

  
Michael P. Mooney  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2877

  
Frank G. Font  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2877

FGF/mpm  
10/20/03